

**UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION**  
**LEVEL: 100 Theatre Arts (Diploma)**

**COURSE CODE: TAR 354**

**COURSE TITLE: DIRECTING – AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**      **Credits: 3**

**LECTURER: Samuel M. Yirenkyi**

**SEMESTER: Two (2)**

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**COURSE OUTLINE**

Investigation and presentation of scenes and expansion arising from theories and techniques of play Directing. Exercises in Directing involving shorter scenes for class evaluation.

**1. Responsibilities of the Director**

- a. Choosing the play
  - 1. Finding a scene
  - 2. Putting the scene in context
  - 3. Challenging the Audience
  - 4. Challenging the Actors
  - 5. Challenging the Director

**2. Staging a Scene: The Analysis**

- a. Analysis of Beats
- b. The Basis of Movement
- c. The Amount of Movement
- d. Stage Locations
- e. Rules for Movement
  - 1. Improving Visibility
  - 2. Focusing Attention
- f. Background of the Scene
- g. Scene Analysis

**3. Staging a Scene: The Blocking**

- a. Planning the Set
- b. Blocking the Action
- c. Running through the Blocking

**4. Script Analysis**

- a. Conflict and Expectations
- b. Sequence of Events

**5. Practical Challenges**

- a. Properties
- b. Designing the Set

- c. Locating the Problem
- d. Style – Major Directors and their style of presentation
- e. Rehearsal Schedule

#### **6. Principles of Arrangement**

- a. Central Position
- b. Symmetrical and Asymmetrical Balance
- c. Focus of Attention
- d. Body Position and Height
- e. Circular Arrangement
- f. Horizontal Arrangement
- g. Staging Arrangements – Unity, Balance, Rhythm, Mood

#### **7. Preparing for Performance**

- a. Technical Rehearsal
- b. Dress Rehearsal
- c. Flaws in the Production
- d. Final Dress Rehearsal and Performance

#### **8. Preparing a Prompter's Copy.**

**NB:** Students must choose/select plays for class work

- 1. Three (3) assignments would be presented by students for class continuous assessment
- 2. Attendance to class would be strictly adhered to.
- 3. Students would be encouraged to practically direct a short play in class.

#### **READING LIST**

- 1. Frerer, Lloyd Anton (1971) *Directing for the Stage*. NTC Publishing Group, Illinois.
- 2. McMahan, Elizabeth; Day, Susan & Funk, Robert (1989) *Literature and the Writing Process*. 6<sup>th</sup> Edition. Macmillan Publishing Company, New York.
- 3. Forde, Nigel (1986) *Theatrecraft Creativity and the Art of Drama*. Harold Shaw Publishers. Wheaton, Illinois.
- 4. Wilson, Edwin (1998) *The Theatre Experience*. 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc New York.
- 5. Holman, Hugh C & Harmon, William. (1986) *A Handbook to Literature* 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. Macmillan Publishing Company, New York.
- 6. Brocket, Osker (1991) *History of the Theatre*. Allyn and Bacon, Boston.